Reviewer's report

Title: Care Planning Needs of Palliative Home Care Clients Based on the interRAI Palliative Care (interRAI PC) Assessment Clinical Assessment Protocols (CAPs)

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Reviewer: Kirsten Hermans

Reviewer's report:

I believe this is a carefully written and useful paper on:
1) the person-specific needs of palliative home care clients, based on the interRAI Palliative Care Clinical Assessment protocols (interRAI PC CAPs)
2) the development of the interRAI PC CAPs and the strengths and limitations of these CAPs

The authors provide a good explanation on the interRAI PC instrument and the interRAI PC CAPs.
Methods are appropriate and clearly described. Results, tables and figures are well presented and the discussion section is well balanced and adequately supported.

I would consider the paper ready for publication after making a few changes:
1) Lines 3-5: The title doesn’t seem to capture the whole content of the paper since it only refers to the care planning needs of the palliative home care clients, based on the interRAI PC. In the paper, the development process, the strengths and weaknesses of the interRAI PC CAPs are also described and put forward as the added value of the article. Therefore, I would also mention the development process of the CAPs in the title. [minor essential revision]

2) Line 113: The large group of interRAI instruments is mentioned. I think it would be interesting for the readers if a brief explanation about on these instruments was provided. [discretionary revision]

3) Introduction: Although the article is about care planning needs of palliative home care clients (which the title suggests), this population is not mentioned or described in the introduction. The relevance of studying this population’s palliative care needs is also not mentioned. Furthermore, while the title suggests that the main aim of the study is to examine the care planning needs of palliative home care clients, I think it would be recommended to mention this aim in the introduction and in the abstract. [minor essential revision]

4) Limitations: I couldn’t find an overview of the limitations [minor essential revision]
Level of interest: An article of outstanding merit and interest in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:
I declare that I have no competing interests